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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Josephine Armstead-Bowman of Dixmoor, who passed away on January 7, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Josephine Armstead-Bowman was born on December 3, 1935, in Chicago; her parents were the late Mr. Korandus and Mrs. Annie Bee Lax-Armstead; she married Benjamin Bowman Sr. on December 28, 1958; and

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WHEREAS, Josephine Armstead-Bowman received her general education from the Chicago Public School System; she later undertook training to become a cosmetologist and beauty professional; and

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WHEREAS, As a young woman, Josephine Armstead-Bowman joined the St. James Church of God in Christ and acknowledged and received Jesus Christ as her personal Lord and Savior; for many years, she participated in numerous church activities, including the Sunday School Ministry, Young Peoples' Willing Workers (YPWW), and the Youth Choir; she later sang with a chorale called the Jubilee Five; and

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WHEREAS, In the winter of 1970, Josephine Armstead-Bowman became the first lady of the Revival Center Church of God In

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1 Christ, supporting her husband's calling into the ministry as
2 Senior Pastor of a newly established congregation; for 25
3 years, she served the people of God untiringly, teaching in
4 multiple areas of the church, including the Sunday School
5 Department, the YPWW, Bible Band, and the Voices of Revival
6 Center Choir; she also acted as a surrogate mother to many of
7 the parishioners attending and joining the ministry; in 1996,
8 she decided to move her fellowship and joined the Tabernacle
9 Church of God In Christ, where she served on the Mother's
10 Board; she also served in the Women's Ministry, taught young
11 women how to knit and crochet, engaged in Bible study, and
12 played the piano during her time at the church; in 2002, she
13 joined the charismatic ministry of the Abounding Life Church of
14 God In Christ in Posen and faithfully served on the Mother's
15 Board until her health prevented her from active ministry; and

16 WHEREAS, Josephine Armstead-Bowman is survived by her
17 children, Lolita Bowman-Butts (Pastor Walter James Butts),
18 Brenda Faye Bowman-Harris (Napoleon Harris, Jr., deceased),
19 Benjamin Bowman. Jr. (Cynthia Delores Jackson-Bowman), Pastor
20 Raymond Bowman (Nancee Brantly-Bowman), Hazel Ann Bowman,
21 Kenneth Jerome Bowman (Rhonda Rene Lockett-Bowman), Regina
22 Elaine Bowman-Batiste (Anthony Batiste), Pastor Nathaniel
23 Bowman, Sr. (Natasha Pleshita Campbell-Bowman), Josephine
24 Bowman-McDonald (Michael McDonald), Elijah Bowman (Chymica
25 Laminer-Bowman), Emmanuel Bowman (Cedelia LaShone

1 Tatum-Bowman), and Kelvin Bowman (Dominique Thompson-Bowman);
2 her siblings, Ida Bell Armstead-Scott, Frances Rosamound
3 Armstead-McDonald, Shirley Mae Armstead, and Henry Lee
4 Armstead; her sisters-in-law, Ruth Johnson, Ruby Baker,
5 Marleen Bowman, and Ola (Mary) Armstead; her cousins, Melvin
6 and Susie Armstead; her faithful friend, Evangelist Earlene
7 Travis; her 38 grandchildren, including Illinois State Senator
8 Napoleon Harris, III; her 6 great-grandchildren; and her many
9 nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends; and

10 WHEREAS, Josephine Armstead-Bowman will be remembered
11 fondly by all who knew her as a devoted and loving wife, an
12 unselfish and nurturing mother, and a loyal friend whose piety
13 and caring nature endeared her to everyone she met; therefore,
14 be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
17 her family and friends, the passing of Josephine
18 Armstead-Bowman; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of Josephine Armstead-Bowman as an
21 expression of our sympathy.